



**KING COUNTY  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD  
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

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**LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, May 27, 2003**

4:00-5:30 PM

Conference Room 6B, Exchange Building  
821 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

**Approved  
Meeting Minutes**

**Attending:**

Howard Miller (KCMHAB)

Roger Goodman (Co-Chair/KCASAAB)

**Absent:**

Linda Brown (KCASAAB)

Alice Howell (KCMHCAB)

Mindy Meyring (KCMHAB)

Pam Dietrick (KCASAAB)

Ron Sterling (KCMHAB)

Clifford Thruston (KCMHAB)

Jim Harbaugh (KCASAAB)

Eleanor Owen (Co-Chair/KCMHAB)

**Visitors:**

**Staff:**

Amnon Shoenfeld

Geoff Miller

Sherry Hamilton

It was noted that many members were not able to make the meeting due to illness or schedule conflicts.

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(206) 205-1324 or (206) 205-1136

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**I. Budget – Report and updated**

Amnon noted that he had just returned from a meeting where the actuarial firm of Milliman USA was discussing the results of their work with the Regional Support Networks (RSNs), State Mental Health Division and others. This was the third draft report to have been presented for discussion by the actuarial firm hired by the federal Center for Medicaid and Medicare. The firm has been gathering data sufficient to establish the rate that will be paid by the federal government for mental health services covered under Medicaid.

The impact of the rate on the King County RSN could be substantial, but this is not a legislative issue. However, past funding cuts to King RSN could be exacerbated by a uniform statewide Medicaid rate that does not recognize regional cost differences.

**II. Legislative Information**

- The special session began May 12, 2003 but very little has happened to date. Negotiators have met but the budget appears to be stalled between the House and the Senate. There may be more news or a break in the deadlocked negotiations late next week (June 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>).

**III. Discussion**

- The need to streamline and re-energize the committee was discussed. There are a number of important activities that the two boards need to accomplish during the remainder of the year. Among those are establishing an agenda for the 2003-2004 Legislative Session, hosting a well attended Legislative Forum, and providing direct input to the legislators from the two boards about King County's legislative priorities.
- Howard agreed to discuss how to streamline and re-energize the Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee with King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board Chair Linda Brown. This reorganization would be a discussion item at the June meeting.

**IV. Set Agenda for June 25, 2003 meeting, which will be held as follows:**

June 25, 2003  
4 PM to 5:30 PM  
Conference Room 6B, Exchange Building  
821 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

*For information call Geoff Miller, King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division  
(206) 205-1136.*

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